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ABSTRACT

This report provides statistical evidence of worsening conditions facing Puerto Ricans in America in the areas of (1) unemployment, (2) poverty, (3) demographics, and (4) education. It concludes with recommendations from the National Puerto Rican Forum. The unemployment rate for Puerto Ricans is the highest among Hispanic population groups. The poverty rate of Hispanics in general now exceeds that of blacks in certain areas. Because of the kinds of jobs becoming available, Hispanics have a slim chance of escaping the poverty cycle. With dramatically increasing numbers, Hispanics are expected to be the largest minority in the United States by the year 2000. Related to unemployment is lack of education. The most rapidly increasing minority group in urban schools, Hispanics have an extremely high dropout rate. High illiteracy rates of Hispanics are also linked to unemployment. Recommendations on Puerto Ricans' future include: (1) attention to government funding of programs, (2) increased attention from the educational system, and (3) greater commitment from the business community to provide employment opportunities. The National Puerto Rican Forum sees the socioeconomic situation of Puerto Ricans at a crucial stage requiring immediate action. (LHW)

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A FIRST FRIDAY REPORT

PUERTO RICANS: GROWING PROBLEMS for a GROWING POPULATION

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September 5, 1986

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September 5, 1986

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- More than 8 million people were out of work in August, 1986; the unemployment rate decreased slightly from 6.9% to 6.8%. However, the "Real Rate" of joblessness and underemployment stood at 12.2% or 14.6 million Americans, when those who have given up looking for work and those who must work part time because they cannot find full time jobs are included.

- The official unemployment rate for Hispanics increased to 11.0% in August, 1986, from 10.5% the previous month. The "Real Rate" for Hispanics stands at 19.2%.

- The unemployment rate for Puerto Ricans was 13.4% during the second quarter of 1986, higher than that for Mexican-Americans or Cuban-Americans.

- Puerto Rican youth 16-19 had a lower percentage of their population group holding jobs (either full or part time) than any other youth population group -- 22%.

- Hispanic men earn 71.2¢ for every dollar earned by white males. Hispanic women earn only 51.4¢.

- The Hispanic poverty rate rose to 29% in 1985, approaching more closely the black rate of 31.3%. In the Northeast and the West, Hispanic rates -- 39% and 26% -- exceeded black rates -- 28% and 20%.

- 41.9% of Puerto Ricans were poor in 1985; 74.4% of Puerto Rican female headed households were poor.

- The Hispanic population increased by 61% between 1970 and 1980, far surpassing the 9% increase for non-Hispanics.

- Florida, Massachusetts, and Texas registered Puerto Rican population increases of over 200% between 1970 and 1980. Pennsylvania and Connecticut Puerto Ricans increased by over 100%.

- The national dropout rate for Puerto Ricans and Mexican-Americans is 40%. In some cities 80% of Puerto Rican youth are dropouts.

- The Adult Performance Level Study in 1975 found 56% of Hispanics functionally illiterate, and 26% only marginally literate.

- Although 55% of U.S. Puerto Rican youth in 1980 were academically eligible to attend college, only 25% enrolled. Only 28% of those graduated.

Puerto Ricans: Growing Problems for a Growing Population

I. Unemployment

With more than 8 million Americans unemployed in August, 1986, the nation's official jobless rate remains stuck at nearly 7% of the labor force. While a marked improvement over the 10.7% rate in November, 1982, at the low point of the last recession, the official jobless rate masks the economic hardships faced by millions of people who work only part time because they cannot find full-time jobs or who have given up looking for work altogether. When these two groups are included, the National Committee for Full Employment's calculation of the "Real Rate" of joblessness and underemployment stood at 12.2% in August, 1986, or 14.6 million Americans.

With the nation approaching the celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Week, Hispanics face an official unemployment rate of 11.0% and a "real rate" of 19.2%, but Puerto Ricans are the hardest hit of any Hispanic population group. They have consistently been the least educated, more frequently unemployed, and more likely to be poor and dependent on government assistance. They consistently lag behind the general population and the other Hispanic subgroups in every socio-economic category. This First Friday Report, the 25th in a series, examines the persistent, interwoven problems of unemployment, poverty, and lack of education that are the lot of large numbers of Puerto Ricans.

For the second quarter of 1986, the Bureau of Labor Statistics placed the unemployment rate for Puerto Ricans at 13.4% versus 7.1% for the total population. (1) This figure was more than the corresponding figures for Mexican Americans (11%) and Cubans (6.2%). The figure was below the 16.6% rate for Puerto Ricans during the first quarter of this year. The unemployment rate for Puerto Rican men 20 years and over was 10.4%, in sharp contrast to 5.2% for adult white men. For Puerto Rican women in the same age group, the unemployment rate was 14.6% versus 5.3% for white women.

These rates are higher than those for all Hispanics, for Mexican-Americans, and for Cubans. When Puerto Ricans working part-time for economic

reasons are included, the overall rate rises to 18.6%, much closer to NCFE's approximation of the "real" rate. Unfortunately, the data do not provide information on the number of discouraged workers which would indicate an even higher "real" rate of unemployment and underemployment within the Puerto Rican community. No data are available for Puerto Rican youth, but the rate for Hispanic teenagers was 23.7%. The official unemployment rate in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in June, 1986, was 19.6%, even higher than for mainland Puerto Ricans. Breakdowns for discouraged workers are also not available for them.

The Department of Labor also recently reported that 84.5% of all Hispanic families had one member counted employed or unemployed in the civilian labor force during the period of April to June, 1986. It said that 5% of the families surveyed had no one employed versus 2.3% for whites and 7.4% for blacks. The department surveyed 59,500 households and determined that Hispanics had average weekly earnings of $409 versus $558 for whites and $399 for blacks.

One effective way of measuring the labor market success of a particular group is to look at its labor force participation rate. This rate measures the number of persons age 16 and over who are either employed or actively seeking employment. The labor force participation rate for Puerto Ricans in the second quarter of 1986 was 55.2%, compared with a Mexican-American rate of 66.2%, a Cuban rate of 65.9%, and an overall rate of 65.3%. For Hispanic youth 16-19 this rate was 44.0% in the second quarter of 1986 versus 59.4% for white teens and 44.7% for black teens. Among the Hispanic subgroups, Puerto Rican youth had the lowest rate at 33.3% versus 47.4% for Mexican Americans. (For Cuban youth, the data base was too small for accurate estimates.)

A more accurate assessment of the employment status of Puerto Rican youth is the employment-population ratio. Puerto Rican youth 16-19 years old ranked lower than any other population group in the proportion employed, i.e. the percentage of the population with jobs.

Employment-Population Ratios
Youth - Both Sexes - 16-19 Years Old
Second Quarter, 1986

All Youth	45.4%
White	49.6
Black	26.0
All Hispanic	33.5
Mexican Origin	36.9
Cuban Origin	36.2
Puerto Rican Origin	22.0

II. Increasing Poverty

Income statistics point to a dramatic gap of at least 30 percent between Hispanic incomes and those of white Americans. (2) Hispanic men earn just 71.2¢ for every dollar earned by white males. Hispanic women who work full time have the lowest income of any population subgroup, earning 51.4¢ to the dollar earned by white males.

Not surprisingly, many Hispanics live in poverty. The Census Bureau recently reported that the poverty rate for Hispanics rose from 28.4% in 1984 to 29% in 1985. (3) This was in contrast to the poverty rate among whites which decreased slightly from 11.5% in 1984 to 11.4% in 1985. The poverty rate for blacks (while still higher) also decreased from 33.8% to 31.3%. Statistics also showed that for children under the age of 18 living in families the rates for whites and blacks dropped while increasing for Hispanics. The Hispanic rate rose from 39% in 1984 to 39.9% in 1985. For whites the rate dropped from 16.5% to 15.9%, and for blacks from 46.5% to 43.4%.

In areas of high concentration of Hispanics, their poverty rates have now exceeded black rates. In the Northeast, where Puerto Ricans are the predominant Hispanic group, the Hispanic poverty rate was 39%, the black rate 28%. In the West, where Mexican-Americans predominate, the Hispanic rate was 26%, compared with 20% for blacks.

For Puerto Ricans the poverty rate was 41.9%, while the rate for Puerto Rican female-headed household was 74.4%. In addition, Puerto Rican families with children under the age of 18 had a poverty rate of 48.1%.

In measuring the mean real income the survey revealed that in every category of families with children, income in 1984 dollars dropped in the past eleven years. Hispanic female headed households showed the greatest percentage and dollar decrease in mean real income. But any drop at all was devastating to Hispanics and blacks, whose mean income was so much lower than that of whites to begin with.

Mean Real Income of Families With Children
1973-84 in 1984 Dollars

	1973	1984	1973-1984	Decrease
All Families with Children	$32,206	$29,527	-8.3%	-$2,679
White	$33,859	$31,298	-7.6%	-$2,561
Black	$20,708	$18,504	-10.6%	-$2,204
Hispanic	$23,280	$21,663	-6.9%	-$1,617
All Two-Parent Families with Children	$35,493	$34,379	-3.1%	-$1,114
White	$36,276	$34,954	-3.6%	-$1,322
Black	$27,040	$28,096	+3.9%	-$1,056
Hispanic	$26,247	$25,777	-2.5%	-$ 470
All Female-Headed Families with Children	$14,371	$13,257	-7.8%	-$1,114
White	$15,853	$14,611	-7.8%	-$1,242
Black	$11,619	$10,522	-9.4%	-$1,097
Hispanic	$12,175	$10,560	-13.3%	-$1,615

Source: Danziger and Gottschalk (4)

The low economic status of the Hispanic community was further highlighted by an article in the July 28, 1986, issue of Hispanic Link Weekly Report. (5) The newsletter reported that U.S. Hispanic households were eight times less wealthy than white households but slightly wealthier than blacks. Quoting a U.S. Census Bureau report, the newsletter stated that 50.2% of the 4.2 million Hispanic households had less than $5,000 in assets, compared with 54.4% of blacks and 22.4% of whites.

The opportunity for Hispanics to break out of this cycle of poverty appears to be slim. A recent report prepared for the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce stated that "over 86% of the unemployed black and Hispanic males in the U.S. are blue collar workers, but a majority of the new jobs being generated by the U.S. economy are in white collar occupations." (6)

Projected Changes in Employment for Selected Industries, 1984-85

Most New Jobs	Employment Gain (in thousands)
Business services	2,633
Retail trade, except eating and drinking places	1,691
Eating and drinking places	1,203
Wholesale trade	1,088
Fastest growing	**Avg. Yearly rate of change (%)**
Medical services	+4.3
Business services	+4.2
Computers and peripheral equipment	+3.7
Materials handling equipment	+3.7

Source: The Monthly Labor Review, November, 1985. (7)

The expanding fields contrast sharply with the fields that the MBDA report states offer the greatest potential for employment within the minority community. Over 50% of the jobs created by minority enterprises were in the blue collar arena, while the opposite was true for the overall U.S. economy.

The MBDA report said there are five lines of minority enterprises that offer the greatest potential for employment for minority workers. They are hotel and lodging industry, construction, auto repair, manufacturing, and transportation/communication. When job quality and quantity are included as criteria, the most beneficial lines of businesses include manufacturing, auto repair, transportation/communication, construction, hotel/lodging, business services and health services. While it may appear on face value that policy makers should pursue policies that encourage growth within the minority

business community, it must be pointed out that the income gap will grow if the non-white community is not phased into the expanding white collar positions.

III. Demographics: Increasing Numbers

Diminishing employment opportunities that limit the potential to escape poverty are exacerbated by the dramatic growth of the Hispanic population in the past decade. According to the 1980 Census, the Hispanic population reached 18 million including 3.2 million in Puerto Rico. This represented a 61% increase since 1970, far surpassing the 9% increase for non-Hispanics over the same period of time.

Hispanics presently (1985) represent 7.2% of the population (8) and are expected to be the largest minority by the turn of the century. Puerto Ricans in the United States comprised 15.7% of the Hispanic population in the U.S. When the island of Puerto Rico is included, Puerto Ricans represented 34.6% of the 1985 Hispanic population.

A salient characteristic of both the United States and island Puerto Rican communities was their rapid growth. For example, among states with at least 20,000 Puerto Ricans, Florida, Massachusetts and Texas registered population increases of more than 200%. Pennsylvania and Connecticut saw their Puerto Rican population increase by over 100%. Presently, approximately 50% of the Puerto Ricans living on the mainland live in New York.

Hispanics are also a younger population than the non-Hispanic population with a median age of 25 years versus 31.9 for non-Hispanics. The median age for Puerto Ricans living in the United States in 1985 was 24.3 years. Seventy-five percent of the U.S. Puerto Rican population were under the age of 35 compared to 51.6% of the overall U.S. population in 1980.

IV. Education

Due to the technological changes taking place in the workforce, education and retraining of the workforce are key issues that policy makers are confront-

ing today. William H. Kolberg, President of the National Alliance of Business, brought the point home when he stated that "... in the near future three out of every four jobs will require education or training beyond the high school level." (9) He further stated that businesses are having a hard time finding entry level workers because the applicants don't have basic math and literacy skills. He called for greater coordination between businesses and schools to address the problem.

Nathan Quinones, Chancellor of the New York City Board of Education, has called for schools to play a new and expanded role in light of the changing demographic characteristics of students entering the school system. (10) Quinones quoted an article written by Harold Hodgkinson of the American Council on Education who stated that this fall the following characteristics will describe the more than 3.6 million children who will begin their formal schooling:

-- one out of every four will be classified "poor";
-- 14% will be children of teenage mothers;
-- 15% will be physically or emotionally handicapped;
-- 15% will be immigrants who speak a language other than English;
-- 10% will have poorly educated, even illiterate parents; and,
-- between one-fourth to one-third will be latch-key kids. (4)

Quinones pointed out that the minority population within urban schools in increasing and that the Hispanic student population is increasing faster than all other minority groups. He pointed out that minorities comprise the majority of students in 23 of the 25 largest cities.

Hispanics are projected to be a significant portion of the labor force in the years ahead, yet are lacking the type of educational training that will make upwardly mobile positions available to them. For Puerto Ricans this situation is magnified by the fact that they have among the highest dropout rates in the country.

At the present time, the national dropout rate for Puerto Rican and Mexican American youth is 40%. In some cities the Puerto Rican dropout rate

is estimated at 80%. In March, 1985, only 48% of Hispanics age 25 and over were high school graduates versus 76% for non-Hispanics.

In a 1980 report, The Condition of Education for Hispanic Americans, (11) the National Center for Educational Statistics documented that U.S. Puerto Rican and Mexican-American youth are more likely to be enrolled two or more years below grade level than their peers. Hispanic youth between the ages of 14 and 19 are twice as likely as similarly aged whites not to have completed high school.

Illiteracy is a major problem in the Hispanic community. By traditional measure of illiteracy -- the completion of less than six years of school -- the illiteracy rate for Hispanics stood at 13.5% versus 2% for non-Hispanics in the same age group.

A 1979 study found that among the various Hispanic subgroups, Puerto Ricans has a functional illiteracy rate of 15%, second to Mexican Americans (23.1%) and higher than Cubans (9.3%) and other Hispanics (5.9%). (12)

The 1975 Adult Performance Level Study developed a widely recognized standard for functional literacy and determined that 56% of Hispanic adults were functionally illiterate, 26% were marginally literate, and only 18% were considered "advanced literate." This was contrasted with the white community which had rates of 16%, 34% and 50% respectively. (13)

The English Language Proficiency Survey determined that 48% of the adults whose native language was other than English were illiterate. The study further determined that 22% of the adults who were illiterate were Hispanic. According to the survey, this placed the Hispanic adult illiterate population at between 39 and 49%. (14)

The lack of English proficiency presents another major problem for Hispanics as well. A report by the National Commission for Employment Policy found that lack of English proficiency directly affected the labor market position and educational attainment of Hispanics. The report expressed particular concern for Puerto Rican youth who often migrate between two

different school systems and labor markets, one predominantely English, the other Spanish. (15)

The Census Bureau reported in 1980 that one-fourth of the Spanish-speaking people surveyed spoke little to no English. A 1984 survey of Hispanics 16 years of age and over revealed that 23% of the sample spoke enough English to get by and 20% spoke only Spanish. (16) One-tenth of Hispanics age 8 to 13 living in homes where Spanish is sometimes or usually spoken were enrolled below the expected grade level for their age in 1976. For 14 to 20 year olds, one-fourth were behind in school. (17)

Compounding the problem is the fact that in the years to come, when education will be more critical than ever in determining an individual's ability to advance up the socio-economic ladder, the cost of post-secondary education will continue to rise, tending to limit educational opportunities for low-income Hispanics in general and Puerto Ricans in particular (18).

This is born out by a 1980 study which showed that while 55% of U.S. Puerto Rican youth were academically eligible to attend college, only 25% actually enrolled. Of those entering college only 28% graduated. According to the Department of Education, the Hispanic enrollment is expected to decrease. (19).

V. The National Puerto Rican Forum: Recommendations

Since its inception in 1957, the National Puerto Rican Forum has been at the forefront in aggressively pursuing the socio-economic improvement of the Puerto Rican community. While much has changed since its beginning, the mission of the Forum has not. It remains today, as it was then, threefold:

(a) To provide educational and economic opportunities to the Puerto Rican people;

(b) To promote research on, and analysis of, the Puerto Rican and other Hispanics' situation that would instill interest in, and contribute to, public policy for institutional changes and the advancement of the economically disadvantaged; and,

(c) To develop community leadership and create programs that would solve the needs of the community.

As the century enters the final years of what was labeled "the decades of the Hispanics," the Forum is faced with many challenges as it seeks to fulfill its mission.

As a direct service organization, the Forum sees first hand what this report illustrates statistically. Society is undergoing profound economic, social, and political changes that will drastically alter the face of the nation in the next decade.

For Puerto Ricans, and Hispanics generally, these changes are both a blessing and a curse. By the turn of the century, Hispanics are expected to be the largest single minority in the country. Sheer numbers alone will provide Hispanics with increased political and economic buying power which will force policy makers and businesses to develop marketing strategies reflecting the Hispanic experience. Evidence of that occurring can be seen in the manner in which both major political parties are courting the Hispanic vote and the heavy amount of advertising, in English and Spanish, within the Hispanic community.

Now more than ever, economic policy must reflect the current economic realities of the Puerto Rican community. As stated by the National Puerto Rican Coalition:

"... Because of its relative poverty, the Puerto Rican community is especially sensitive to the health of the American economy and to burdens imposed by taxation. At the same time, the community's poverty necessities greater than average dependence on government sponsored social safety-net and ladder-of-opportunity programs. While government outlays for these programs have already been cut, pending deficit reduction legislation could result in further funding cuts ..." (20).

For an organization like the Forum, this presents problems in attempting to serve its clientele. With dwindling government resources the Forum's offices in Chicago, Hartford, Cleveland, Miami, New York City, and Washington, D.C., are struggling to keep pace with the volume of demand.

If the nation truly wants to address the concerns of the Puerto Rican community, the National Puerto Rican forum believes that the following recommendations need to be acted upon:

First and foremost, Puerto Ricans and other Hispanics need to be seated at the local, state, and national decision-making tables participating in the formulation of public policy.

There needs to be an increase in funding for training and educational service within the Puerto Rican community to address the unique needs of its people. Stipends must be provided for those who need the training and cannot afford it without support for child care or transportation expenses. Organizations like the Forum are being stretched to the limit, asked to do more with less while the needs increase.

The educational system must become more sensitive to the linguistic and cultural needs of Puerto Rican children. Bilingual services, ESL classes, literacy classes and adult basic occupational skills need to be provided.

The educational system must focus a great deal on the dropout population and, in coordination with the business community and community organizations, provide dropouts with constructive alternatives to crime, drugs, and unemployment.

The Congress must continue to provide funding for the safety net programs that Puerto Ricans are heavily dependent on. Any decrease in funding for these programs should correspond with increases in training and educational opportunity programs.

There must be a greater commitment on the part of the business community to provide training and employment opportunities for Puerto Ricans. Joint partnerships like the agreements the Forum has with McDonald's, Aetna Life Insurance, Citibank, and the cities of New York and Chicago need to be duplicated by other companies. Employers need to play more of an active role in ensuring that Puerto Ricans receive the type of training that will prepare them for the available employment opportunities. More joint ventures need to

be developed with Hispanic businesses as a means of promoting economic development within the community. They should provide management assistance to Puerto Rican businesses and help reduce the barriers Puerto Rican businesses face when seeking venture capital.

Due to the increasing number of people from Puerto Rico the forum is serving, Congress must address the current economic situation of Puerto Rico to alleviate the high rate of unemployment and poverty there.

One fact is very clear: The socio-economic situation of the Puerto Rican community in the United States and in Puerto Rico is at a crucial stage; unless corrective action is taken immediately, another generation of Puerto Rican youth will be left behind, forced to depend on the government to live in dignity.

FOOTNOTES

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(8) Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, Persons of Spanish Origin in the United States: March, 1985, Supplemental Report.

(9) Kolberg, William H., President, National Alliance of Business, testimony before the Subcommittee on Economic Resources, Competitiveness, and Security Economics of the Joint Economic Committee, July 29, 1986.

(10) Quinones, Nathan, Chancellor, New York City Board of Education, testimony before the Subcommittee on Economic Resources, Competitiveness, and Security Economics of the Joint Economic Committee, July 29, 1986.

(11) Rosen, Hill and Olivas, The Condition of Hispanics Education for Hispanic Americans. U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Washington, D.C., 1980.

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(18) "Annual Cost of College Will Rise 6% This Fall," New York Times, August 4, 1986.

(19) The Chronicle of Higher Education, July 23, 1986.

(20) National Puerto Rican Coalition, unpublished background paper, NPRC Seminar on Federal Tax and Budget Policy, June 12, 1986.

Appendix: Real Joblessness Among States and Localities

Joblessness and underemployment continues to be widespread in the middle regions and many less populous states of the nation. The official unemployment rate actually increased in June, 1986 in 33 of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. While some areas of the country, principally the northeast, have healthier economic pictures than they did at the end of the 1970s (at a similar point after the last major recession), most areas have worse jobless rates -- official and "real" -- than before the recessions of 1980 and 1982. NCFE's "real jobless rate" takes into account "discouraged" and involuntary part-timers that the official unemployment rate omits. Tables 2 and 3 provide detailed information on the official and real jobless rates for all states, the 20 largest metropolitan areas, and the 20 hardest hit communities. Among other things, these tables reveal the following:

-- 39 states had higher real jobless rates in May, 1986, than in 1979.

-- State jobless rates range from a low of 3.2 percent official and 5.8 percent "real" for New Hampshire to 13.0 percent official and 24.5 percent "real" for Louisiana.

-- Twenty-one states have official jobless rates at or above the national average; twelve have "real" jobless rates above 15 percent.

-- The large metropolitan areas with the highest jobless rates were Houston (12.6 percent official; 22.7 percent "real"), Detroit (8.7 official; 15.7% "real"), Cleveland (8.4 percent official; 15.1 percent "real"), and Pittsburgh (8.1 percent official; 15.6 percent "real").

-- Among communities showing the biggest increases in real joblessness between 1979 and 1986, are Houston, TX (a 382 percent jump), Beaumont-Port Arthur, TX (a 315 percent increase), Lafayette, LA (a 210 percent rise), and Waterloo-Cedar Falls, IA (a 255 percent increase).

TABLE 1

TWENTY HIGHEST METROPOLITAN AREAS UNEMPLOYMENT (%)

Location	Annual Average 1979		June 1986 (most recent)	
	Official* Rate	Real** Rate	Official* Rate	Real** Rate
1. McAllen Edinburg Mission, TX	12.0	20.4	21.0	37.8
2. Odessa, TX	N/A	N/A	19.5	35.1
3. Brownsville Harlingen, TX	8.5	14.5	19.0	34.2
4. Beaumont-Port Arthur, TX	5.9	10.0	18.6	33.5
5. Houma Thibodaux, LA	N/A	N/A	18.1	32.6
6. Longview Marshall, TX	N/A	N/A	16.0	28.8
7. Lake Charles, LA	6.8	11.6	15.4	27.7
8. Corpus Christi, TX	N/A	N/A	15.2	27.4
9. Lafayette, LA	4.7	8.0	14.6	26.3
10. El Paso, TX	7.9	13.4	14.5	26.1
11. Brazoria, TX	N/A	N/A	14.2	25.6
12. Midland, TX	N/A	N/A	14.1	25.4
13. Modesto, CA	11.8	20.1	13.8	24.8
Galveston Texas City, TX	5.0	8.5	13.8	24.8
14. Beaver County, PA	N/A	N/A	12.7	22.9
15. Houston, TX	3.3	5.6	12.6	22.7
16. Albany, GA	N/A	N/A	12.3	22.1
17. Shreveport, LA	5.1	10.4	12.2	22.0
18. Waterloo-Cedar Falls, IA	4.7	8.5	12.0	21.6
19. Kenosha, WI	5.2	8.8	11.9	21.4
20. Bakersfield, CA	8.6	14.6	11.8	21.2

* Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

** Source: National Committee for Full Employment. The real rate of unemployment takes into account the numbers of officially unemployed, part-time for economic reasons and discouraged workers. In June, 1986 the official unemployment rate nationally was 7.1 percent, while the real jobless rate was 12.7 percent. The "real rate" for state and local areas is a projection of these figures.

TABLE 2

TWENTY LARGEST METROPOLITAN AREAS UNEMPLOYMENT (%)

Location	Annual Average 1979		June 1986 (most recent)	
	Official* Rate	Real** Rate	Official* Rate	Real** Rate
1. New York, NY	8.1	13.8	6.6	11.9
2. Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA	5.5	9.4	6.7	12.1
3. Chicago, IL	5.2	8.8	7.8	14.0
4. Philadelphia, PA	6.9	11.7	5.7	10.2
5. San Francisco, CA	5.6	9.5	4.5	8.1
6. Detroit, MI	8.0	13.6	8.7	15.7
7. Boston, MA	5.3	9.0	3.3	5.9
8. Houston, TX	3.3	5.6	12.6	22.7
9. Washington, D.C.	7.5	12.8	7.2	13.0
10. Dallas, TX	3.6	6.1	7.0	12.6
11. Miami-Hialeah, FL	6.3	10.7	6.8	12.2
12. Cleveland, OH	5.0	8.5	8.4	15.1
13. St. Louis, OH	5.4	9.2	6.9	12.4
14. Atlanta, GA	4.6	7.8	4.8	8.6
15. Pittsburgh, PA	5.9	10.0	8.1	14.6
16. Baltimore, MD	6.6	11.2	4.5	8.1
17. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	3.3	5.6	4.1	7.4
18. Seattle, WA	5.3	9.0	6.4	11.5
19. San Diego, CA	6.2	10.5	5.0	9.0
20. Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	5.4	9.2	5.5	9.9

* Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

** Source: National Committee for Full Employment. The real rate of unemployment takes into account the numbers of officially unemployed, part-time for economic reasons and discouraged workers. In June, 1986 the official unemployment rate nationally was 7.1 percent, while the real jobless rate was 12.7 percent. The "real rate" for state and local areas is a projection of these figures.

TABLE 3

STATE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (%)

Location	Annual Average 1979		June 1986 (most recent)	
	Official* Rate	Real** Rate	Official* Rate	Real** Rate
Alabama	7.1	12.1	10.0	18.0
Alaska	9.2	15.6	10.8	19.4
Arizona	5.1	8.8	7.1	12.8
Arkansas	6.2	10.5	8.9	16.0
California	6.2	10.5	6.5	11.7
Colorado	4.8	8.2	6.8	12.2
Connecticut	5.1	8.7	3.7	6.7
Delaware	8.0	13.6	5.3	9.5
District of Columbia	7.5	12.8	7.2	13.0
Florida	6.0	10.2	6.0	10.8
Georgia	5.1	8.7	6.1	11.0
Hawaii	6.3	10.7	5.5	9.9
Idaho	5.7	9.7	7.8	14.0
Illinois	5.5	9.4	8.4	15.1
Indiana	6.4	10.9	6.6	11.9
Iowa	4.1	7.0	6.5	11.7
Kansas	3.4	5.8	5.2	9.4
Kentucky	5.6	9.5	8.9	16.0
Louisiana	6.7	11.4	13.6	24.5
Maine	7.2	12.2	4.9	8.8
Maryland	5.9	10.0	3.9	7.0
Massachusetts	5.5	9.4	3.7	6.7
Michigan	7.8	13.5	9.4	16.9
Minnesota	4.2	7.1	5.0	9.0
Mississippi	5.8	9.9	12.6	22.7
Missouri	4.5	7.7	5.9	10.6
Montana	5.1	8.7	7.2	13.0
Nebraska	3.2	5.4	4.5	8.1
Nevada	5.1	8.7	5.9	10.6
New Hampshire	3.1	5.3	3.2	5.8
New Jersey	6.9	11.7	5.0	9.0
New Mexico	6.6	11.2	9.7	17.5
New York	7.1	12.1	6.0	10.8
North Carolina	4.8	8.2	5.5	9.9
North Dakota	3.7	6.3	6.3	11.3
Ohio	5.9	10.0	8.7	15.7
Oklahoma	3.4	5.8	9.0	16.2
Oregon	6.8	11.6	8.9	16.0
Pennsylvania	6.9	11.7	7.3	13.1

TABLE 3
(continued)

STATE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (%)

Location	Annual Average 1979		June 1986 (most recent)	
	Official* Rate	Real** Rate	Official* Rate	Real** Rate
Rhode Island	6.6	11.2	3.6	6.5
South Carolina	5.0	8.5	6.7	12.1
South Dakota	3.5	5.6	4.2	7.6
Tennessee	5.8	9.9	7.8	14.0
Texas	4.2	7.1	11.1	20.0
Utah	4.3	7.3	5.4	9.7
Vermont	5.1	8.7	4.4	7.9
Virginia	4.7	8.0	5.1	9.2
Washington	6.8	11.6	7.7	13.9
West Virginia	6.7	11.4	10.9	19.6
Wisconsin	4.5	7.7	6.6	11.9
Wyoming	2.8	4.8	9.3	16.7

* Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

** Source: National Committee for Full Employment. The real rate of unemployment takes into account the numbers of officially unemployed, part-time for economic reasons and discouraged workers. In June, 1986 the official unemployment rate nationally was 7.1 percent, while the real jobless rate was 12.7 percent. The "real rate" for state and local areas is a projection of these figures.